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MERCHANT

FAMILY.

July, 1878.

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STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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JOB MERCHANT.

Born in Wales; emigrated to America; served in the Patriot Army of the Revolution; was one of the Berkshire men of Massachusetts at the Battle of Bennington, fought August 16th, 1777; participated in other battles; was captured by the British, and died a prisoner of war in New York in the winter of 1780–1781.

There is no more sacred and enduring page in the history of this nation than that which tells of the heroism, sufferings and death of the British Prison-ship Martyrs. There is no darker page of infamy in the history of any nation than that which bears the record of England's inhuman treatment of those brave prisoners of war. The freemen of the United States will ever hold in grateful remembrance the Prison-ship Martyrs who died, that the nation might live and her sons be Free. From the first headquarters of the Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, (a building erected for a farm-house by Thomas Hall, in 1645, on the site now marked by the Southeasterly corner of Nassau and Spruce Streets, New York City,) on the 26th of May, 1808, started the imposing national procession which escorted the remains of the Prison-ship Martyrs to the tomb provided for them by Tammany. "The parade of the bones," it was called by the scoffing Federalists and Tories of that day, and it is even now jeered at in like manner by their descendants of this day; but every true citizen will remember with gratitude the murdered American Patriots of the Revolution, and with indignation, the cruelties of their English murderers.

EDMOND MERCHANT.

Son of JOB, born in Judea, Connecticut, June 3d, 1773; was a U. S. Soldier in the war with Great Britain of 1812–15; married CHARLOTTE BROWN, December 12th, 1794, and died on Merchant Street in Lawrence, N. Y., where he was one of the earliest settlers, January 1, 1856, aged 81 years and 7 months. He was a Democrat of the old school.

His wife, CHARLOTTE BROWN, was born in Hancock, Massachusetts, September 8th, 1775, and died in Lawrence, February 13th, 1839, in the 63d year of her age. To them were born: POLLY, at Lainesborough, Mass., October 2d, 1795; became Mrs. Mason, and for her second husband married Mr. Dewey; died in Parishville, N. Y., January 13th, 1871. JOHN, at Shoreham, Vermont, April 3d, 1797; died in Shoreham, November 27th, 1798. SILAS, at Shoreham, July 4th, 1798; died in Lawrence, N. Y., July 5th, 1856. HIRAM, at Shoreham, June 10th, 1801; died in Shoreham, September 12th, 1803. MIRON, at Schroon, N. Y., November 2d, 1806; died in Bridgeport, Illinois, November 10th, 1867. CHARLOTTE, at Schroon, May 4th, 1808; now the wife of Mr. A. HASELTON, residing in the town of Lawrence, N. Y. ELECTA, at Schroon, March 10th, 1810; now the widow of the late Mr. R. BROWNELL, residing in Fort Jackson, N.Y. NEHEMIAH ROYCE, at Schroon, March 11th, 1813; died in Lawrence, February 17th, 1854.

NEHEMIAH ROYCE MERCHANT.

Grandson of JOB and Son of EDMOND; born in Schroon, N. Y., March 11th, 1813; removed with his parents when a child to Lawrence, N. Y., and continued to reside at the old homestead on Merchant Street until his death, which occurred February 17th, 1854, his age being 40 years, 11 months and 6 days. He held the rank of Captain in the State Militia, was an excellent officer and esteemed citizen, and the life of the social circle in which he moved. In politics he was an active Democrat. His wife, DIANTHA HOUGHTON, whom he married March 19th, 1835, was born in Jay, Essex County, N. Y., April 18th, 1815, and died in Lawrence, December 25th, 1864, aged 49 years, 8 months, and 7 days.

She was a lady of high social qualifications and superior mental endowments. For several years in her early life she was engaged in the useful and noble occupation of teaching. An ardent lover of learning, her active mind eagerly grasped the precious gems of knowledge, and with superior tact she imparted them to others. Her ability as a teacher was unquestioned, and her services were urgently solicited in the higher schools. Her richly cultivated mind and affability of manner, rendered her an ever welcome and highly desirable companion in the social circle, while her benevolent disposition and the true christian deportment which characterized her, made her an ornament to her sex and a blessing to the world. Benevolently dispos-

ed, she gave freely in a worthy cause, and the deserving needy who sought her charity were never turned away with wants unsupplied. She was a member of the Church of Christ, and took an active interest in the advancement of His cause. Loved and respected in all the walks of life, it was in the domestic circle, by the family hearthstone where shone brightest her superior excellence, and was felt the deepest her great worth. A kind, affectionate wife, she anticipated the wishes of her devoted companion, and with loving woman's skill, strewed his path with roses and blessed his life indeed. Children were never blessed with a better mother than were hers; she watched over them with a fond mother's anxious care, and taught them the sacred teachings which true christian mothers always teach. The death of her husband, in 1854, proved too heavy a blow; under its crushing weight reason was dethroned, and the brilliant, well-stored mind became inactive, save to mourn the loss of her dear departed. This was a deep affliction: and yet there is sweet consolation to be found in that beautiful passage of scripture, which was so appropriately used by Rev. Mr. Smith as a text for her funeral sermon: "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." She has gone home to rest; her unfettered spirit roams as light as air the halls of that Celestial Dwelling Place with him for whom she had so long and deeply mourned; and they together sing, with songs of praise, the glory of the great Immanuel who doeth all things well, as all will sing for endless time who fall asleep in Jesus. To Captain Merchant and

his wife were born five children, three sons and two daughters:

AUGUSTUS SIDNEY, at Lawrence, N.Y., January 31st, 1836; died in Lawrence, March 21st, 1841. OBADIAH HOUGHTON, at Lawrence, January 13th, 1839; died in Lawrence, March 22d, 1841, both boys being interred in one grave in the family lot at Nicholville, N. Y. ALBION NEHEMIAH, at Lawrence, N. Y., June 28th, 1843; now residing at Burlington, Vt. AUGUSTA JANE, at Lawrence, N. Y., July 28th, 1845; now a resident of Potsdam, N. Y. FLORENCE ANNETTE, at Lawrence, N Y., April 13th, 1852; at present residing at Brushton, N. Y.

ALBION NEHEMIAH MERCHANT.

Great Grandson of JOB, Grandson of EDMOND, and Son of NEHEMIAH, was born in Lawrence, N. Y., June 28th, 1843. He served in the 47th Regiment, New York Volunteers, in the War of the Rebellion, and is at present Editor of the "*Democrat and Sentinel*," and engaged in the printing and publishing business at Burlington, Vt. He married JOSEPHINE H. BOWEN, at Moira, N. Y., September 12th, 1865, and to them have been born two children: ALBION FREDERIC, at Hopkinton, N. Y., January 1st, 1867, now living with his parents; and MARY BOWEN, at Burlington, Vt., November 22d, 1877, who died at the same place, January 25th, 1878.

AUGUSTA JANE MERCHANT.

Born in Lawrence, N. Y., July 28th, 1845, married Mr. EMORY A. HAMLIN, of Dickinson, N. Y., January 1st, 1866, with whom she now resides in Potsdam, N. Y. To them have been born three children: INEZ AUGUSTA, at Hopkinton, N. Y., July 9th, 1867, and FLORENCE MAY, at Potsdam, May 9th, 1871, both living with their parents; and EARL ALBION, at Potsdam, July 30th, 1873, who died at the same place, March 21st, 1875.

FLORENCE ANNETTE MERCHANT.

Born in Lawrence, N. Y., April 13th, 1852, married Mr. FAYETTE A. CLARK, at Hopkinton, December 28th, 1866, and with her husband now resides in Brushton, N. Y.,

EBENEZER HOUGHTON,

whose mother's name was Warner, was born at Ashby, Massachusetts, October 14th, 1787, married SALLY COOLIDGE, (daughter of OBADIAH and SALLY KNOWLTON COOLIDGE,) April 10th, 1809, and died at Cleveland, Ohio, September 7th, 1838, aged 50 years, 10 months and 23 days. His wife was born at New Ipswich, N. H., July 19th, 1789, and died in Norfolk, N. Y., December 14th, 1830, aged 41 years, 4 months and 25 days. To them children were born: SARAH KNOWLTON, in Jay, N. Y., September 30th, 1810; now Mrs. STAFFORD, of Newark, Ohio; MARY ANN, in Jay, N. Y., July 18th, 1813; died at Cleveland, Ohio, March 5th, 1837; SAMANTHA, (twin,) in Jay, N. Y., April 18th, 1815; now widow of the late ASA FARNSWORTH, of Moira, N. Y., and residing with her daughter in Lawrence; DIANTHA, (twin,) in Jay, N. Y., April 18th, 1815; died at Lawrence, N. Y., December 25th, 1864; CAROLINE, in Jay, N. Y., December 13th, 1817; died at Jay, February 25th, 1818; OBADIAH COOLIDGE, in Jay, N. Y., February 10th, 1819; died in Richland, Indiana, November 4th, 1866; SETH WARNER, in Jay, N. Y., December 20th, 1821; died June 26th, 1822; ALMIRA JANE, in Potsdam, N. Y., July 16th, 1823; now the wife of Mr. SYLVESTER MASON, residing in Lawrence, N. Y. Mr. HOUGHTON married a second wife, DEIDAMIA EDWARDS, who survived him.

WILLIAM BOWEN.

Born in Grafton, N. H., October 23d, 1786, married CATHARINE CASS, September 27th, 1812, and died at Moira, N. Y., October 17th, 1877, aged 89 years, 11 months and 25 days. His wife was born at Alexandria, N. H., May 3d, 1795, and died in Brady, Michigan, September 9th, 1837, aged 40 years, 11 months and 19 days. To them children were born: JESSE CASS, in Grafton, N. H., March 24th, 1816; died in Grafton, December 10th, 1816; RUFUS, in Grafton, N. H., July 5th, 1814; now a resident of Moira, N. Y.; JOHN HARRISON, in Grafton, N. H., October 9th, 1817, now living at Kansas City, Missouri; OSCAR FITZLAND, in Grafton, N. H., July 3d, 1819; died at Moira, N. Y., March 10th, 1864; NASON C., in Moira, N. Y., March 30th, 1824, where he now resides. Mr. BOWEN married a second wife, HARRIET BURROUGHS, who was born in Sharon, Vermont, January 25th, 1799, and who survives him. She is a woman of rare ability and culture, retains her mental powers to a remarkable degree and enjoys a comfortable home in her declining years with Mr. N. C. BOWEN, of Moira, N. Y.

OSCAR FITZLAND BOWEN.

Born in Grafton, N. H., July 3d, 1819, married MARY ALMIRA FISK, February 2d, 1847, and died at Moira, N. Y., March 10th, 1864, aged 44 years, 8 months and 7 days. His wife was born at Irasburgh, Vt., May 29th, 1828, and survives him, residing at present with her daughter, Mrs. A. N. MERCHANT of Burlington, Vt.: to them children were born: JOSEPHINE H., at Moira, N. Y., Nov. 15th, 1847, now residing in Burlington, Vt.; WILLIAM O., at Moira, N. Y., April 27, 1850, now a resident of Pleasant Plain, Iowa; JOHN BURROUGHS, at Moira, N. Y., June 30th, 1852; died in Moira, Aug. 20th, 1861; EDWARD A., at Moira, Nov. 9th, 1860; now living in Pleasant Plain, Iowa.

JOSEPHINE HARRIET BOWEN.

Born in Moira, N. Y., Nov. 15th, 1847, married A. N. MERCHANT of Hopkinton, N. Y., Sept. 12th, 1865, with whom she now resides in Burlington, Vt.

WILLIAM OSCAR BOWEN.

Born in Moira, April 27th, 1850, and is at the present time a resident and successful merchant of Pleasant Plain, Iowa.

EDWARD ARTHUR BOWEN.

Born in Moira, Nov. 9th, 1860, and now resides with his brother in Pleasant Plain, Iowa.

NATHAN FISK.

Born in Brookfield, Vt., September 2d, 1791, and died in Hartford, Vt., March 3d, 1856, aged 64 years and 6 months. He was an active, influential man, held the office of High Sheriff, and other positions of public trust. He married for his first wife VINAL WHEATLEY, who was born in Brookfield, Vt., September 26th, 1792, and died in Albany, Vt., April 21st, 1846, aged 53 years, 6 months and 25 days. To them nine children were born: EDWIN N., ELIZABETH V., JOHN, JASON, MARY A., ROXANIA, CHARLOTTE A., ELLEN E. I., and FREDERICK. Mr. FISK married a second wife, IRENA CURRIER, who was born in Potsdam, N. Y., July 6th, 1808, and survives him, residing with her brother, Mr. SOLOMON CURRIER, of Potsdam.

MARY ALMIRA FISK.

Born in Irasburgh, Vermont, May 29th, 1828, and is now the widow of the late O. F. BOWEN, residing with her daughter, Mrs. A. N. MERCHANT, in Burlington, Vermont.

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